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Europeans all grow their own things, because the Chinese have no sewerage, not even earth closets. The excreta are kept in earthen vessels which are emptied once a day by women, who use it for cultivating the soil.

Canton will never again be visited under such interesting conditions. The old insignia of the dragon is forbidden, the new flag, which is a star representing the sun and its rays embroidered in white on a blue field, is floating everywhere. We were stared at frankly, but by friendly faces. In spite of their exclusion from the United States, they like us, and one very intelligent Chinaman told us that they were trying to form their government like ours. He spoke only of the Cantonese; he said they know nothing of the problems of the other provinces. The passengers bought mandarin coats until I doubt if there are many left in China. Our wonderful trip in sedan chairs was through the narrowest, most densely populated streets in the world, past rows of marvellous shops, where furniture was being carved by hand, jewelry was being made of king-fisher feathers, jade was being fashioned into trinkets and ornaments, ivory and sandal-wood being converted into treasures, and over all and through all the odor of fish and of drying orange peels. They make double profit out of an orange, the fruit and peel being sold separately, the latter being eaten both fresh and dried. The pedestrians, those on small ponies, the chair bearers, the fish and vegetable hawkers, women working with babies strapped on their backs, children carrying heavy burdens suspended on bamboo poles supported on their shoulders, made one great moving mass of hard-working people, with earnest faces, each intent on the business in hand—all without mishap, no collision, no disturbance.

The dismantled temples which had been centres of active disturbance were all guarded by soldiers.

In the morning I went ashore to see Hong Kong. There is a train that takes you to the top of the peak, which is the European quarter. There are no Chinese allowed, except as servants. The trip is very much like a scenic railway—at each turn there is a new view of the beautiful harbor and the surrounding hills. There were fine private residences, two hospitals, and what looked like soldiers' barracks, everything delightfully clean and well-kept.

We are now riding the waves through the Straits of Formosa. The decks are deserted, and the social halls crowded. On New Year's Day we are due in Nagasaki, and if anybody has any money left, Japan will get it.

CHARLOTTE EHRLICHER.

THE R. N. AS A REAL PROTECTION TO OUR PROFESSION

DEAR EDITOR: As far as I know, no law has yet been passed, that would actually distinguish the "registered nurse" from the experienced nurse, so that the R. N. would be a real protection to the nursing profession. Even so, the R. N. has somewhat raised the standard in two instances and that is, in institutional and civil service work; for all executive positions of that kind the R. N. is now a requirement.

But when it comes to private nursing, conditions are just as bad as many years ago, at least for nurses who are graduates of hospitals of smaller towns or foreign countries. If those nurses really want work they are still compelled to live in those private registries, where many of the inhabitants figure as trained nurses, but are none, and those registries are far more busy than our

"Central Registry" is. Still all kinds of women are employed under the name of "trained nurse," such as graduates of a nurses correspondence school, women who have had a few months' experience in a private sanitarium, and sometimes only in a doctor's office. Those women are employed at full pay, and in cases of serious illness, and the families are made to believe that their loved ones are in the best care of a competent fully-trained nurse.

I do not think that any law would alter those conditions, doubtless the law would be a dead one, but I feel absolutely sure that we ourselves could check those outrages in a comparatively short time by explaining the meaning of the R. N. to the public. In many cases we do not get a chance to discuss this important theme, but if every "registered nurse," when on duty, would wear a pin or a badge with the R. N. (and the number of her registration diploma, which could be very small or engraved on the back), the public's attention would be roused and we would get a better opportunity to make the people acquainted with the R. N. Very soon the families would understand that the registered nurse, who has sacrificed three long years of earnest study and hard work to prepare herself for her responsible duties, can give better care to their sick than the previously mentioned women, who are frequently and recklessly put in the place of a competent registered nurse. All that is necessary is to get the public used to look for the R. N. badge or pin and no longer will they pay the price of the real thing for a poor substitute.

Naturally those conditions are of no personal interest to nurses who are graduates of large training schools and have a well-established registry. Just the same, a number of them, who are unselfish women with a strong feeling for justice, have helped to bring about an action to improve the conditions by establishing the "Central Registry," which can only become a success after the R. N. has taken its place before the public.

The R. N. badge or pin could be protected against misuse in the same manner as a trade mark.

P. D. N.

[*An Excellent Suggestion.*—Reforms to be lasting must be worked out slowly. State Registration is in its infancy—the constructive period. Each nurse who supports a Central Registry rather than a commercial one helps to solve this problem. ED.]

MISLEADING ADVERTISEMENTS

DEAR EDITOR: The newspapers of the smaller towns throughout the country are frequently solicited to insert reading advertisements for the Philadelphia School for Nurses, located at 2219 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, and as it poses as a beneficent and charitable institution these advertisements are inserted free of charge.

The visitor of the Pennsylvania State Board of Charities in a report states: "Nothing to be seen worth reporting. No indication of lessons or instruction. Your visitor cannot commend this institution": and in a letter says: "This last, places this institution under the head of those we condemn absolutely in our printed report."

It is advisable that the public should know that the young women who enter this school as pupils are sent out after having had the most meagre instruction from incompetent instructors, to nurse in private families for money, eighty per cent. of which is returned to the school treasury. They receive no bedside instruction nor are they under the direction of skilled and competent teachers.